We claim:

- A polyamide which contains a monoolefinically unsaturated
 compound chemically bonded at the end of the polymer chain via an amide group.
 - 2. A polyamide as claimed in claim 1, where the monoolefinically unsaturated compound is a monocarboxylic acid.

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- 3. A polyamide as claimed in claim 1, where the monoolefinically unsaturated compound is a monoamine.
- A polyamide as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, where the
 monoolefinically unsaturated compound has terminal olefinic unsaturation.
- A polyamide as claimed in claim 2, where the monoolefinically unsaturated compound is a terminally olefinically unsaturated, linear, unbranched alkenemonocarboxylic acid.
 - 6. A polyamide as claimed in claim 3, where the monoolefinically unsaturated compound is a terminally olefinically unsaturated, linear, unbranched alkenemonoamine.

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7. A polyamide as claimed in claim 5, where the monoolefinically unsaturated monocarboxylic acid has the formula

$$CH_2 = CH - (CH_2)_n - COOH$$

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where
$$n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12$$
.

- 8. A polyamide as claimed in claim 5, where the monoolefinically unsaturated monocarboxylic acid has the formula
 35 CH₂ = CH (CH₂)₃ COOH.
 - 9. A polyamide as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8, where the content of the monoolefinically unsaturated compound is in the range from 0.001 to 2 mol%, based on 1 mole of amide groups of the polyamide.
 - 10. A polyamide obtainable by crosslinking a polyamide as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9.

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11. A process for preparing a polyamide, which comprises carrying out the reaction of monomers suitable for forming a polyamide to give a polyamide in the presence of a monoolefinically unsaturated compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8.

- 12. A process for preparing a polyamide, which comprises carrying out the reaction of oligomers suitable for forming a polyamide to give a polyamide in the presence of a monoolefinically unsaturated compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8.
- 13. A fiber, a film, or a molding, comprising a polyamide as claimed in any of claims 1 to 9.

REPLACED BY ART 34 AMDT.